#### **PART I**

### **CHARTER\***

\*Editors Note: The charter is set out as amended, passed and approved by the majority of the voters at the city election on May 14, 2011

#### **Article I. General Provisions**

- Sec. 1.01. Incorporation.
- Sec. 1.02. Form of Government.
- Sec. 1.03. General Powers.
- Sec. 1.04. Garnishment and Execution.
- Sec. 1.05. Charter Commission.
- Sec. 1.06. Severability.
- Sec. 1.07. Non-Substantive Revisions.
- Sec. 1.08. Full-Purpose Annexation.

#### Article II. The Council

- Sec. 2.01. Election and Term.
- Sec. 2.02. Qualifications.
- Sec. 2.03. Term Limitations.
- Sec. 2.04. Compensation.
- Sec. 2.05. The Mayor.
- Sec. 2.06. Vacancies.
- Sec. 2.07. Powers and Duties of the Council.
- Sec. 2.08. Council meetings.
- Sec. 2.09. Legislation.

### Article III. Initiative, Referendum and Recall

- Sec. 3.01. Power of Initiative, Referendum, and Recall.
- Sec. 3.02. Requirements for All Petitions.
- Sec. 3.03. Requirements Applicable to Specific Petitions.
- Sec. 3.04. Petition Signatures.
- Sec. 3.05. Submission and Review of Petition.
- Sec. 3.06. Initiative and Referendum Elections.
- Sec. 3.07. Petition and Council Action.
- Sec. 3.08. Effect of Election.
- Sec. 3.09. Petition and Council Action.
- Sec. 3.10. Effect of Election.
- Sec. 3.11. Resignation or Election.
- Sec. 3.12. Results of Recall Election.
- Sec. 3.13. Limitations on Recall.

# **Article IV. Administration Offices and Departments**

Sec. 4.01. City Manager.

Sec. 4.02. City Secretary.

Sec. 4.03. City Attorney.

Sec. 4.04. Police Department.

Sec. 4.05. Fire Department.

Sec. 4.06. Municipal Court.

# Article V. Municipal Planning and Zoning

Sec. 5.01. Planning and Zoning Commission.

Sec. 5.02. Zoning Board of Adjustment.

# **Article VI. Municipal Finance**

Sec. 6.01. Fiscal Year.

Sec. 6.02. Fiscal Plan.

Sec. 6.03. Budget.

Sec. 6.04. Monthly Financial Statement.

Sec. 6.05. City Tax Assessor and Collector.

#### ARTICLE I.

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

# Sec. 1.01. Incorporation.

The inhabitants of the City of Sugar Land, Fort Bend County, Texas, residing within its corporate limits, are a municipal body politic under the name of the "City of Sugar Land." (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

#### Sec. 1.02. Form of Government.

The City government shall be known as the council-manager form of government. All City powers are vested in an elected city council. The council shall appoint a city manager, who shall execute the laws and administer City government.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

### Sec. 1.03. General Powers.

The City shall have all powers possible for a home-rule city to have under the Texas Constitution, the laws of the State of Texas, and this Charter, as fully and completely as though they were specifically enumerated in this Charter, including the power:

- (a) To annex an area for full or limited purposes as provided in this Charter and to disannex land.
- (b) To borrow money on the faith and credit of the City by the issuance and sale of bonds, notes, or other debt instruments:
- (c) To enact ordinances for the safety, health, and general welfare of the citizens;
- (d) To assess the owners of real property abutting upon a public highway or street for street improvements made thereon, in accordance with State law;
- (e) To the full extent allowed by law, to require that any person, utility, or company making use of the city's streets or property to provide any service to the public first obtain the written consent of the city by license, permit, franchise, ordinance or otherwise. A franchise shall not be valid for more than fifty (50) years; and
- (f) To the full extent allowed by law, to regulate the rates, charges, fees, operations, and services of any person, utility, or entity providing water, wastewater, electricity, natural gas, telephone, telecommunications, cable television, taxicab, bus, solid waste, transportation, or similar service to the public within the city.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99; Ord. No. 1190, § 1, 8-3-99; Ord. No. 1448, 5-25-04)

### Sec. 1.04. Garnishment and Execution.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided for by State or Federal law, City funds are not subject to garnishment and the City is not required to answer in any garnishment proceeding.
- (b) City property is not subject to any kind of execution. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

#### Sec. 1.05. Charter Commission.

The council shall appoint a charter commission as often as it deems necessary, but not less than every five years, to review the operations of city government under the Charter and determine whether revisions should be made. At the conclusion of its review, the commission shall make a written report of its recommendations of changes, if any, to the city council. The city council may submit the recommended changes, as it deems appropriate, to the voters for approval. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 1.06. Severability.

If any section or part of a section of this charter shall be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this charter nor the context in which such section or part of section so held invalid may appear, except to the extent that an entire section or part of section may be inseverably connected in meaning and effect with section or part of section to which such holding shall directly apply.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

#### Sec. 1.07. Non-Substantive Revisions.

- (a) The City Council may, without approval of the voters, adopt an ordinance that makes the following types of revisions to the Charter:
  - (1) Renumbering, revising titles, and rearranging parts thereof;
  - (2) Correcting errors in spelling, grammar, cross-references, and punctuation; and
  - (3) Revising language to reflect modern usage and style.
- (b) A revision adopted under this section is not intended to and is not to be interpreted as making any substantive change in any Charter provision.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99; Ord. No. 1448, 5-25-04)

# Sec. 1.08. Full-Purpose Annexation.

The City may by ordinance annex an area lying outside its corporate limits for the purpose of exercising therein all of its municipal powers to the fullest extent allowed by law and, upon annexation, the area so annexed and the inhabitants thereof will be a part of the City for all purposes. (Ord. No. 1448, 5-25-04)

#### ARTICLE II.

#### THE COUNCIL

#### Sec. 2.01. Election and Term.

- (a) The council shall consist of a mayor and six (6) council members elected by the voters for a term of two (2) years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified.
- (b) The mayor and two (2) council members shall be elected at-large in even-numbered years. The two (2) at-large council members positions shall be respectively designated as Position 1 and Position 2. The remaining four (4) council members shall be elected by districts, designated as Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, in odd-numbered years. The council shall modify the size, configuration, and geographic definition of the council districts as necessary to provide equal representation to all citizens of the city and to comply with state and federal law.
- (c) Council elections shall be held in May of each year on the date specified by state law. A candidate must be elected to office by majority vote. If no candidate for an office receives a majority vote, a run-off election shall be held as required by state law. The council shall be the judge of the election and qualifications of its own members.
- (d) The city secretary shall promptly notify all persons elected to office. The persons elected shall take their oaths of office and begin their duties at the meeting at which the city council declares the results of the election. (Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

## Sec. 2.02. Qualifications.

Council members shall be twenty-one (21) years of age or older and city residents for at least one (1) year preceding their election. A district council member shall during the term of office maintain a residence in the district to which elected. No council member shall hold any other city office or city employment while serving as a council member or hold any paid city employment within two (2) years thereafter. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 2.03. Term Limitations.

A person may not be elected in a city election to any council position more than four times in any consecutive nine year period. For purposes of this provision, the position of the mayor is considered a separate office from other council positions.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

## Sec. 2.04. Compensation.

The mayor and councilmen may receive such pay or compensation, including necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, in an amount determined from time to time by the council; provided, that the pay or compensation received by the mayor shall not be less than that received by each councilman.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

## Sec. 2.05. The Mayor.

- (a) *Head of City government*. The mayor shall preside at all council meetings and be deemed a council member and be entitled to vote upon all matters considered by the council. The mayor shall be recognized as the head of the City government for all ceremonial purposes and shall perform any additional duties as provided for by Federal or State laws or regulations.
- (b) *Mayor pro tem.* Following each city election in May, the council shall appoint one of its members as mayor pro tem. The mayor pro tem acts as mayor during mayor's absence and has the power to perform every act the mayor could perform if present.
- (c) Acting mayor. In the event of the absence, disability or disqualification of both the mayor and mayor pro tem at any particular meeting of the council, the remaining members of the council, if a quorum be present, shall, by election, designate one of their members as acting mayor, and he shall act as mayor for such particular meeting and shall have the power to perform every act the mayor could perform if present. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99; Ord. No. 1448, 5-25-04)

## Sec. 2.06. Vacancies.

- (a) If the office of mayor becomes vacant, the following provisions apply:
- (1) If, at the time of the vacancy, more than fifteen (15) months remain on the term, a city election shall be held for mayor at the next May council election. Pending the city election, the council shall appoint one of its members as mayor, whereupon the position of the appointed member becomes vacant.
- (2) If, at the time of the vacancy, three (3) months or more, but fifteen (15) or less months remain on the term, the council shall appoint one of its members as mayor to serve for the duration of the mayor's term, whereupon the position of the appointed member becomes vacant.
- (3) If, at the time of the vacancy, less than three (3) months remain on the term, the mayor pro tem shall act as mayor and receive the compensation of the mayor, but the mayor pro tem's position does not become vacant.
- (b) If the office of a council member, other than the mayor's position, becomes vacant, the council shall within thirty (30) days of the vacancy appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy. If, at the time of the vacancy, more than fifteen (15) months remain on the term, an election shall be held for the position at the next May council election. Otherwise, the appointee shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of that position. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99; Ord. No. 1245, § 1, 5-23-00)

#### Sec. 2.07. Powers and Duties of the Council.

All powers of the city shall be vested in the city council, except as otherwise provided by law or this Charter. The powers and duties of the council shall include the following:

- (a) To select, appoint, review, and dismiss the city manager, with or without cause;
- (b) To establish boards or commissions and appoint individuals thereto as shall be required by law or deemed necessary by the city council.
- (c) To adopt and modify yearly a plan containing the goals and long range plans for the city and directing the city manager in meeting those goals and plans; and
- (d) To exercise exclusive jurisdiction upon, over and under the public streets, sidewalks, alleys, and public grounds of the city, including the right to impose charges for the use of such property. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 2.08. Council meetings.

- (a) The council shall hold two (2) regular meetings each month on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. If a designated Tuesday is a legal holiday, the city council may hold the meeting on another day. All meetings of the council shall be held at the city hall, unless the council designates another place after giving due notice thereof. The mayor, any four (4) council members, or the city manager may call special meetings of the council.
- (b) The council shall determine its own procedures for council meetings and may compel the attendance of its members. Four (4) council members shall constitute a quorum and an affirmative vote of at least four (4) members shall be necessary for the council to take any action relating to public business. The vote on all ordinances and resolutions shall be taken by the "ayes" and "nays" and entered upon the minutes, and every ordinance or resolution, upon its final passage, shall be recorded in a book kept for that purpose.
- (c) If, because of the death or disability of council members, there are an insufficient number of council members for a quorum for two or more consecutive council meetings that are required to be held under the Charter, the remaining member or members are sufficient in number to act as a quorum until the next required council meeting is held at which four or more council members are in attendance. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99; Ord. No. 1448, 5-25-04)

# Sec. 2.09. Legislation.

- (a) An ordinance shall not be adopted until it has been considered and favorably acted on by the council at two (2) separate council meetings. However, ordinances relating to the following matters may be adopted by the council after consideration at only one meeting:
  - (1) The adoption or amendment of a budget or the assessment or levy of taxes;
  - (2) The calling of an election or the canvassing of the returns and declaring the results of an election;
  - (3) The issuance or sale of bonds; certificates of obligations, or other debt instruments; and

- (4) Where the city council, by the affirmative vote of five (5) or more members, adopts an ordinance declaring that an emergency exists because there is an immediate need to preserve and protect the peace, health, safety, or welfare of the community.
- (b) The caption of a proposed ordinance shall be read once in full at a council meeting prior to its adoption by the council.
- (c) Notice of the enactment of every ordinance imposing any penalty shall be given by publishing the ordinance or its descriptive caption and penalty in the city's official newspaper one (1) time within thirty (30) days of passage. The failure to comply with this section shall not affect the validity of the ordinance adopted.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99; Ord. No. 1245, § 2, 5-23-00)

## ARTICLE III. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

### **DIVISION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### Sec. 3.01. Power of Initiative, Referendum, and Recall.

- (a) The City's registered voters may exercise the following powers through petition by requesting that:
  - (1) Initiative. The council enact a new ordinance and, if the council fails to do so, hold an election to approve or reject the new ordinance.
  - (2) Referendum. The council may repeal all or part of an existing ordinance, and, if the council fails to do so, hold an election to approve or reject the ordinance.
  - (3) Recall. A council member resign from office for the reasons set forth in the petition and, if the member fails to do so, hold an election on the recall.
- (b) The power of the initiative and referendum does not apply to ordinances relating to:
  - (1) Financial matters, including the budget, the levy of taxes, or the issuance of bonds or debt instruments;
  - (2) The salaries of officers or employees;
  - (3) Matters which are not legislative in character or which have been withdrawn or excluded by general law from the operative field of initiative or referendum; and
  - (4) Matters where a State or Federal law provides for an election and related election procedures.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

## Sec. 3.02. Requirements for All Petitions.

- (a) In this Article, "Initial Petition Date" means the date the first signature was obtained on any of the copies of an initiative, referendum, or recall petition.
- (b) A petition consists of all the written information, signatures, and documents required by this article. More than one copy of a petition may be circulated at one time, but each copy of the petition must comply with the requirements of this article.
- (c) All petitions must be uniform in size and style.
- (d) All petitions must comply with the requirements of Chapter 277 of the Texas Election Code, a copy of which is available from the city secretary.
- (e) All petitions must contain the names and addresses of the same five registered voters, who serve as a "Committee of the Petitioners," and are responsible for the circulation and filing of the petition, but need not personally gather the signatures for the petition.
- (f) All petitions must include an affidavit, in a form provided by the city secretary, from each person circulating a petition, stating that:
  - (1) The affiant circulated that copy of the petition;
  - (2) All the signatures were made in that person's presence; and
  - (3) It contains a stated number of signatures.
- (g) One of the members of the Committee of Petitioners must submit a copy of the petition being circulated that contains the earliest dated signature to the city secretary within five business days of the Initial Petition Date. The city secretary will record the Initial Petition Date for purposes of verifying that the petition signatures were gathered within the time period required by this Article.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

## Sec. 3.03. Requirements Applicable to Specific Petitions.

- (a) An initiative petition must contain the full text of the ordinance sought to be enacted.
- (b) A referendum petition must contain the full text of the ordinance or provision sought to be repealed.
- (c) A recall petition must identify by name the council member whose removal is sought and the grounds for seeking removal. Each recall petition may only request the recall of one council member, but more than one recall petition may be submitted at one time for the recall of more than one member.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

## Sec. 3.04. Petition Signatures.

- (a) To be certified as sufficient for consideration by the council:
  - (1) An initiative or referendum petition must be signed by persons who were registered voters on the Initial Petition Date, in a number equal to or greater than 30% of those voting in the last city election.
  - (2) A recall petition for the recall of the mayor or an at-large council member must be signed by at least 25% of the City's registered voters as of the Initial Petition Date; and
  - (3) A petition for the recall of a council member elected from a single-member district must be signed by at least 20% of the City's registered voters residing in that district as of the Initial Petition Date.
- (b) To be counted toward the number of required signatures for an initiative, referendum, or recall petition, the person signing the petition must:
  - (1) Have been a registered voter on the Initial Petition Date;
  - (2) Have signed the petition before the 46<sup>th</sup> day following the Initial Petition Date; and
  - (3) Meet any requirements of State law for being counted.
- (c) If the number of signatures on a petition exceeds the number of signatures as stated in the circulator's sworn statement for that petition, the latest signatures, by date, that exceed that number will not be counted.
- (d) If the information provided with a signature is sufficient to verify that the person signing the petition was eligible to sign the petition on the date signed, the failure to follow any technical requirements of this Article or State law will not invalidate the signature.
- (e) A signature on a petition may be withdrawn as provided by Chapter 277 of the Texas Election Code.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

#### Sec. 3.05. Submission and Review of Petition.

- (a) All copies of the same petition must be compiled and filed as a single instrument with the city secretary at one time.
- (b) The city secretary will examine the petition within 30 days of the date filed.
- (c) The city secretary will certify the results of the examination to the council no later than the next regular council meeting following the expiration of the 30-day period.
- (d) If the city secretary certifies that the petition is sufficient, the council will take the action appropriate for the type of petition as specified in this article.

- (e) If the city secretary certifies to the council that the petition is insufficient:
  - (1) The council will take no action on the petition; and
  - (2) The city secretary will notify the Committee of Petitioners of the insufficiencies.
- (f) Any supplemental petition submitted to the city secretary to address any insufficiencies will be governed by Chapter 272 of the Election Code. The city secretary will examine the supplemental petition and follow the same general procedures applicable to the initial petition, subject to the provisions of Chapter 272.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

#### Sec. 3.06. Initiative and Referendum Elections.

- (a) Any number of ordinances may be voted on at the same election in response to one or more petitions for an initiative or referendum election.
- (b) If two or more ordinances approved at the same election have conflicting provisions, the provision contained in the ordinance receiving the greater number of affirmative votes prevails.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

## **DIVISION 2. INITIATIVE**

#### Sec. 3.07. Petition and Council Action.

- (a) If the city secretary certifies to the council that an initiative petition is sufficient, the council must:
- (1) Approve the initiated ordinance without amendment within 60 days of receiving the city secretary's certification:
  - (2) Submit the initiated ordinance to the voters at the earliest election date allowed by law; or
  - (3) Submit the initiated ordinance to the voters at the earliest election date allowed by law along with an alternative ordinance proposed by the city council.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

### Sec. 3.08. Effect of Election.

- (a) If a majority of the votes are cast in favor of an ordinance, the ordinance becomes effective upon the effective date of the ordinance declaring the results of the election.
- (b) The council may not repeal or amend an initiated ordinance within one year following the effective date of the initiated ordinance.

(c) If an initiated ordinance is defeated at the election, a petition for a new initiated ordinance on the same general subject matter may not be filed with the city secretary within two years following the date of the election.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

## **DIVISION 3. REFERENDUM**

### Sec. 3.09. Petition and Council Action.

- (a) A referendum petition must be submitted to the city secretary within 180 days following the date the council approves an ordinance for which a referendum is sought.
- (b) If the council fails to repeal the ordinance within 60 days of the date the city secretary notifies the council that the petition is sufficient, the council must call an election for the earliest date allowed by law.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

#### Sec. 3.10. Effect of Election.

- (a) If a majority of the voters fail to vote in favor of retaining an ordinance that is subject to a referendum petition, the ordinance is deemed repealed on the date the council approves the ordinance declaring the result of the election.
- (b) The council may not re-enact the same or substantially similar ordinance within one year of the date the referendum ordinance is repealed.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

#### **DIVISION 4. RECALL**

**Sec 3.11. Resignation or Election.** If a recall petition is certified by the city secretary to be sufficient and the council member whose removal is sought does not resign within five calendar days after the city secretary's certification to the council, the council must order a recall election for the earliest date allowed by law.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

**Sec. 3.12. Results of Recall Election.** If the majority of the votes cast at the recall election are in favor of the removal of the council member recalled, the council member recalled is deemed to have vacated his office at the time and date the council votes to approve the ordinance declaring the results of the election. A council member removed by recall may not be appointed for the unexpired term of the office vacated.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

#### Sec. 3.13. Limitations on Recall.

- (a) A recall petition may not be filed against a council member within six months of the date he or she takes office.
- (b) A council member is not subject to more than one recall election during any one term of that office.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

### ARTICLE IV.

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS

# Sec. 4.01. City Manager.

- (a) The city council shall appoint and retain a city manager to serve as the chief administrative officer of the City. The council shall set the compensation to be paid to the city manager. The city manager serves at the pleasure of the city council and shall be subject to dismissal by the city council, with or without cause.
- (b) The city manager shall exercise the administrative powers granted herein or by ordinance. In particular, the city manager has the following powers and duties:
  - (1) To establish, organize, and abolish City departments or administrative units not otherwise provided for by the Charter and to assign the duties thereof;
  - (2) To adopt, modify, and administer personnel policies for City employees;
  - (3) To hire, promote, transfer, demote, terminate, discipline, and take other administrative actions involving the employment of City employees;
  - (4) To establish and adjust salaries and compensation for all employees not appointed by the city council in accordance with a compensation plan approved by the city council;
  - (5) To annually prepare and recommend to the city council a budget and to administer the adopted budget;
  - (6) To make regular reports to the city council on City operations;
  - (7) To prepare and accept items for the agenda of the meetings of the city council in accordance with rules adopted by the city council; and
- (8) To attend and take part in discussions of all open meetings of the city council. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 4.02. City Secretary.

The city manager shall, with the City Council's consent, appoint a city secretary who shall serve at the pleasure of the city manager and may, with the City Council's consent, be dismissed by the city manager, with or without cause.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

The city secretary shall give notice of council meetings, shall keep the minutes of the meetings, shall authenticate by signature all ordinances and resolutions, and shall keep the corporate seal and affix the same to documents and certificates as may be required.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

## Sec. 4.03. City Attorney.

The city manager shall, with the City Council's consent, appoint a city attorney who shall serve at the pleasure of the city manager and may, with the City Council's consent, be dismissed by the city manager, with or without cause. The city attorney will exercise independent professional judgment in providing legal services to the city.

(Ord. No. 1820, § 1, 5-24-2011)

The city attorney shall have been licensed to practice law in this state for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the appointment.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 4.04. Police Department.

There shall be established and maintained a police department to preserve order within the city and to secure the residents of the city from violence and the property therein from injury or loss. The city manager shall appoint a police chief to administer the department, who shall serve at the pleasure of the city manager and be subject to dismissal by the city manager, with or without cause.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

### Sec. 4.05. Fire Department.

There shall be maintained a fire department to provide protection against fires and other disasters. The city manager shall appoint a fire chief to administer the department, who shall serve at the pleasure of the city manager and be subject to dismissal by the city manager, with or without cause. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

## Sec. 4.06. Municipal Court.

- (a) There shall be a court known as the Municipal Court of Sugar Land, with such jurisdiction, powers, and duties as are given and prescribed by State law.
- (b) The city council shall appoint a municipal court judge and one or more associate judges to serve when the presiding judge is unavailable for unable to serve. The presiding and associate judges shall serve two (2) year terms, but may be dismissed by the city council at any time, with or without cause. The judge and associate judges shall be licensed to practice law in this State.

(c) The city manager shall appoint a municipal clerk who shall serve at the pleasure of the city manager and be subject to dismissal by the city manager, with or without cause. The clerk shall have the power to administer oaths and affidavits, make certificates, fix the seal of the court thereto, and otherwise perform any and all acts necessary in issuing process of such court and conducting the business thereof. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

### ARTICLE V.

#### MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND ZONING

# Sec. 5.01. Planning and Zoning Commission.

A planning and zoning commission is established. Members serve two year terms, which shall be staggered. The council shall by ordinance provide for the number of members, which shall not be less than seven, the manner of their appointment, and any other matters relating to the commission as the council deems necessary. The commission shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Approve or disapprove subdivision plats as provided by State law and City ordinance;
- (b) Recommend to the council approval or disapproval of proposed changes in the zoning regulations and zoning map as provided by State law and City ordinance;
- (c) Make recommendations to the council on the City's master plans;
- (d) Make recommendations to the city manager and the city council on the City's five-year capital improvements plan; and.
- (e) Perform any other duties as directed by the council or by ordinance. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

## Sec. 5.02. Zoning Board of Adjustment.

A zoning board of adjustment is established. The council shall by ordinance provide for the number of members, their terms, the manner of appointment, and any other matters relating to the board as the council deems necessary. The board has the powers and duties as provided by State law and City ordinance. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

#### ARTICLE VI.

#### MUNICIPAL FINANCE

## Sec. 6.01. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year shall being on October 1 each year and end on the following September 30. The city council may by ordinance change the fiscal year, but the change shall not be effective until six (6) months after adoption of the ordinance.

(Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

#### Sec. 6.02. Fiscal Plan.

Each year the city council shall adopt a fiscal plan providing for a complete program of action for the fiscal year. The plan shall contain:

- (1) The goals established by the city council; and
- (2) The city manager's program to meet the goals of the city council. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 6.03. Budget.

- (a) The city manager shall prepare an annual budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The city manager shall submit to the council, for its review, consideration and revision, both a letter describing the proposed new budget, as well as a balanced budget for the forthcoming fiscal year, not later than sixty (60) days prior to the end of the current fiscal year. The budget, as adopted, must set forth the funding for services, programs and activities of the various city departments, and shall meet all fund requirements provided by law and required by bond covenants. It shall also include a multi-year capital improvement program and a current year capital budget.
- (b) The budget shall be adopted by ordinance by one reading not later than the twenty-fifth (25th) day of the last month of the fiscal year. No budget shall be adopted or appropriations made unless the total of estimated revenues, income and funds available shall be equal to or in excess of such budget or appropriations, except as otherwise provided in this article. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

## Sec. 6.04. Monthly Financial Statement.

Prior to the end of each month, the city manager shall provide the city council with an interim financial statement for the prior month. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)

# Sec. 6.05. City Tax Assessor and Collector.

The city manager shall, if required by law, designate a person to serve as city tax assessor and collector to perform the duties thereof. (Ord. No. 1178, § 1, 6-15-99)